GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2567
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2002
TELE-MEDICINE FACILITY IN HOSPITALS
ASHOK KUMAR PATEL

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether G.B. Pant Hospital, Port-Blair and Sir Ramchandra Medical College and Research Centre and Hospital, Chennai have been linked to satellite recently thereby to provide tele-medicine facility;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide tele-medicine facility in other major hospitals in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. The Department of Space has intimated that Tele-Medicine connectivity has been provided between G.B. Pant Hospital, Port Blair, Andaman and Sri Ramachandra Medical and Research Institute, Chennai under the ISRO`s Telemedicine Pilot Project to bring health care for the rural, distant and off shore Island through satellite.

The telemedicine system consists of customized medical software integrated with computer hardware along with medical diagnostic instruments, connected to VSATs at each of the patient end (Port Blair) & expert doctors (Chennai) and linked through INSAT satellite. Generally the medical record/history of the patient is sent to the specialist Doctors who in turn study, provide diagnosis and treatment during video conference with the patient end.

(c)&(d): No such proposal is under consideration in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.